

NHTSA's Visual-Manual Distraction Guidelines for Integrated Devices

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NHTSA Distraction Plan



Guidelines are significant portion of Initiative 2



Basic Device Requirements

Establish basic requirements for electronic devices to minimize distraction

- Ensure devices are placed where drivers can easily see and reach them
- Limit device operation to one hand only (leaving the other hand for steering)
- Limit the amount of manual inputs required to operate the device
- Limit unnecessary visual information in the driver's field of view



Device/Task Lock Outs

- Functions or tasks that are locked out should not be accessible unless vehicle is in "Park"
- "Per Se" Lock outs required by guidelines
 - Video images
 - Static images not related to driving *
 - Manual text entry (e.g. texting, typing, etc) *
 - Displaying more than 30 characters of text *
 - Displaying automatically scrolling text

^{*} Added stringency compared to Alliance GL's



What Other Visual-Manual Tasks Should be Locked Out?

- Based on task performance data
- Measure of distraction
 - 2 second eyes-off-road accepted standard

 Tasks longer than manual radio tuning (2/12)* should be locked out

^{*} Added stringency compared to Alliance GL's



Expected Practical Effects

- Guidelines would deter:
 - Manual Texting*
 - 10-digit dialing*
 - Navigation destination manual entry*
 - Manual social media communications*
 - Internet surfing, etc
- Guidelines would not deter:
 - Integrated hands-free phone use
 - Communications and control through voice interaction

^{*} Added stringency compared to Alliance GL's



Next Steps

- Review / incorporate comments
- Publish Phase 1 Guidelines

- Initiate research on portable devices (Phase 2)
- Continually gather information on voice interface (Phase 3)